

REMARKS

The rejection of claim 1 under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Leffel (U.S. Patent 6,255,903) and Papopoulos et al. (U.S. Patent 6,681,020 B1), is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended herein to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 5, which has been indicated as allowable. Claim 5 was dependent only upon claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is now believed to be allowable and the rejection under 35 USC 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Claims 3 and 4 depend from claim 1 and, accordingly, each should be allowable over the references Leffel '903, Papopoulos '020 and Heithoff '854 or Nishioka '613 taken individually or in combination.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1 and 3-4 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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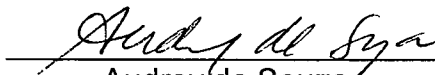
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this Amendment w/Terminal Disclaimer is being submitted to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 via EFS-Web on May 21, 2008.


Audrey de Souza